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WESTERN LLP**  
THE TEAM APPROACH TO PREMIER PERFORMANCE

SINCE 1979

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

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RELATED MATTERS



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REGISTERED PATENT ATTORNEYS

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CALVIN E. THORPE  
(1938-1999)

COPY OF PAPERS  
ORIGINALLY FILED

May 2, 2002

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 is an Information Disclosure Statement.

Enclosed also are the following designated documents, as required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

- X Form PTO-1449 list of 4 references submitted for consideration.
- X Legible copies of the listed references or their relevant portions.
- All English translations of each non-English reference, if any, within the possession, custody, control or availability of anyone designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(c)).

The following are included within the Information Disclosure Statement if applicable and as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98:

- Concise explanation of relevance of each reference not in English and unaccompanied by an English translation.

- \_\_\_ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed are substantially cumulative of an enclosed reference.
- \_\_\_ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the identified prior application which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

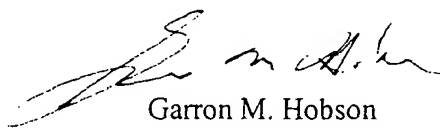
In order to secure consideration of the items designated above, one or more of the following, if required, is also enclosed:

- \_\_\_ Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) or (2).
- \_\_\_ Check No. \_\_\_ in the amount of \$ (amount in § 1.17(p)) constituting the submission fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

In the event that 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) applies and the Examiner is not satisfied that the Statement meets the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), or in any other event remediable by a fee, please credit any over payment or charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 20-0100 of the undersigned.

Dated this 3 day of May, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,



Garron M. Hobson  
Customer No. 20,551  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 41,073  
Docket No. T9627.NP  
Application Ser. No. 10/076,028  
**THORPE NORTH & WESTERN, L.L.P.**  
P.O. Box 1219  
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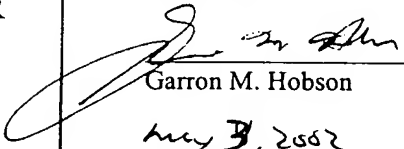
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. 10/076,028  
DOCKET NO. T9627.NP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Hearne  
SERIAL NO.: 10/076,028  
FILED: 02/13/02  
FOR: ATTACHMENT SYSTEM AND  
METHOD FOR ATTACHING  
WALL OR FLOOR SYSTEMS  
TO RESPECTIVE FLOORS OR  
WALLS  
ART UNIT: 3635  
EXAMINER: Unknown  
DOCKET NO.: T9627.NP

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this  
correspondence is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service  
as First Class Mail, postage prepaid,  
under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 on the date  
indicated below and is addressed to  
Assistant Commissioner of Patents,  
Washington, D.C. 20231.

  
Garron M. Hobson

May 3, 2002  
Date of Deposit

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAY 14 2002

Sir:

GROUP 3600

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form PTO-1449 which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). Applicant respectfully submits that this Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to:

X 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)(1) or (3), within three months of the filing date of the application, or before a first office action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c), after a first office action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either 1) a statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), or 2) the fee set forth in § 1.17(p); or

\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (d), after a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, whichever occurs first, but on or before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by both 1) a statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and 2) the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

While no representation is made that any of these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, the enclosed list of references is disclosed so as to comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record believes that the references listed, together with any other references which may have been previously submitted or listed, are the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of which the undersigned is presently aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of each listed reference (or relevant portion thereof) which was not previously submitted to, or cited by, the Patent Office is also enclosed.

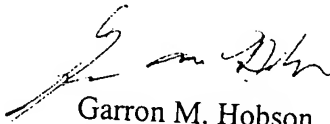
For all listed references that are not either in the English language, or accompanied by a translation into English, a concise explanation of relevance as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) is enclosed attached to each.

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Page 3

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0100.

DATED this 3 day of May, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,



Garron M. Hobson  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 41,073

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~~SECRET~~-1449

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
T9627.NP

**SERIAL NO.**  
10/076,028

**APPLICANT** Hearne

## LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT

**FILING DATE**  
02/13/02

**GROUP**  
3635

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
ASN	AA	4,875,314	10/24/89	Boilen	52	167	
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	<u>TRANSLATION</u> YES NO	
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							

**OTHER PRIOR ART** (Including Author, Title, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

ASW	AR	Wood Construction Connectors, Simpson Strong-Tie Co., Inc. Catalog C-2001 effective 1/1/01
ASW	AS	"Expansion Jack Washer", Anchor Tiedown Systems, Inc. © 1999
ASW	AT	Anchor Tiedown Systems, Inc. catalog, August 1998

**EXAMINER:**

DATE CONSIDERED

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>Notice of References Cited</b>	Application/Control No. 10/076,028	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination HEARNE, JESSE L.	
	Examiner Alfred J Wujciak III	Art Unit 3632	Page 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-5,653,563	08-1997	Ernst et al.	411/82
	B	US-6,150,609	11-2000	Baldwin, Allen M.	174/66
	C	US-4,696,132	09-1987	LeBlanc, J. T.	52/69
	D	US-5,513,476	05-1996	Jones, Robert G.	52/713
	E	US-6,364,374	04-2002	Noone et al.	285/424
	F	US-5,678,379	10-1997	Quattrociocchi, Luciano	52/712
	G	US-5,444,944	08-1995	Roelofsz, Malcolm J. C.	52/64
	H	US-2,751,635	06-1956	Donnahue	52/69
	I	US-4,633,626	01-1987	Freeman et al.	52/71
	J	US-6,334,287	01-2002	Fick, Theodore	52/745.11
	K	US-6,105,332	08-2000	Boyadjian, Shahe K.	52/698
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

**NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

\*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)  
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.